

Contact: Tresia Webb 573-888-6664

USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES FUNDS TO THE CITY OF HOLCOMB

Greg C. Branum, Missouri State Director of USDA Rural Development, announced the funding of \$9,075 to the City of Holcomb. The funds will be used to purchase and install a warning siren to protect the residents during an emergency or natural situation.

U. S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson said, "Emergency notification is important in Southern Missouri. In the event of a tornado or natural disaster, the warning sirens throughout our region send a lifesaving signal to residents. I am glad USDA Rural Development has identified this important public safety opportunity in Holcomb. I am committed to working with my colleagues in Congress to continue to enhance emergency notification and response in Southeast Missouri and rural America."



1st row: Mitzi Dell; Cindy Northern; Max Clark, Mayor; Jerry Gray, City Clerk; Greg Branum, and Tresia Webb.
2nd row: Terry Luetkemeyer

"Rural Development is very proud to be able to assist communities in Dunklin County with these important projects," said Branum. "The City of Holcomb has made a strong commitment to provide quality service to the residents and these funds will enhance their ability to do so. The ability to provide emergency warnings is a vital necessity for the safety of any community."

"The City of Holcomb appreciates the opportunity to better our community with this financial assistance from the USDA-Rural Development to install a warning system for our residents and the surrounding rural area. With so many natural disasters occurring within the past two years, it is essential we are on top of the situation, which will increase our emergency response teams. A couple of minutes warning is better than none at all. We again thank Rural Development for their assistance in our time of need", stated Mayor Max Clark with the City of Holcomb.

"Funding important projects like this by Rural Development mirrors President Bush's initiative of being committed to the future of rural communities," Branum added. "Appreciation is also extended to U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Jo Ann Emerson for supporting USDA Rural Development. They have been strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians."

USDA Rural Development's mission is to deliver programs in a way that will support increasing economic opportunity and improve the quality of life of rural residents. As a venture capital entity, Rural Development provides equity and technical assistance to finance and foster growth in homeownership, business development, and critical community and technology infrastructure. Further information on rural programs is available by visiting USDA's web site at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or can contact Tresia

Webb, Rural Development Manager at Kennett Local Office, 704 North Bypass, Kennett, Missouri 63857 or by calling 573-888-6664 ext. 4.

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